

**TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA
TOWN COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Jarvis Hall
4505 Ocean Drive
Friday, September 11, 2015
6:00 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER, MAYOR SCOT SASSER

Mayor Scot Sasser called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Also present were Vice Mayor Chris Vincent, Commissioner Mark Brown, Commissioner Stuart Dodd, Commissioner Elliot Sokolow, Town Manager Connie Hoffmann, Town Attorney Susan L. Trevarthen, Finance Director Tony Bryan, and Town Clerk Tedra Smith.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. RESOLUTIONS

- a. **Resolution 2015-35 – A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE PROPOSED TOWN AD VALOREM MILLAGE RATE 3.7379 MILS PER THOUSAND DOLLARS OF TAXABLE ASSESSED VALUE, WHICH IS 5.73% ABOVE THE ROLLED BACK RATE COMPUTED PURSUANT TO STATE LAW, FOR THE 2015 TAX YEAR; ANNOUNCING THE SECOND AND FINAL PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Tony Bryan, Finance Director)**

At this time Mayor Sasser opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

Finance Director Tony Bryan stated that the proposed millage rate will generate approximately \$400,000 of budgeted revenue over and above the rolled-back rate. He recalled that at a previous meeting, the Commissioners had discussed using these monies to begin rebuilding the Town's reserve fund.

Town Attorney Susan Trevarthen explained that the Commission had previously set the millage rate at its maximum. The law is constructed to allow this rate to be reduced, but not increased.

Commissioner Brown commented that many other municipalities must begin their budget process by setting aside funds for the purpose of debt repayment. He stated that the Town is very fortunate to have its budget under control and to maintain one of the lowest millage rates in the County. Commissioner Dodd agreed, emphasizing the

importance of maintaining emergency reserves, and funds for capital improvements that had allowed the Town to engage in projects that raise property values and improve the Town's external appearance. More funds may be needed to upgrade sewers and drainage in various areas. Commissioner Sokolow added that he was also supportive of the proposed rate.

Mayor Sasser advised that he was in favor of the rolled-back rate. He added that in light of recent Town projects, adopting the rolled-back rate would be fiscally responsible policy. However, he felt the proposed rate did not represent a significant difference from the rolled-back rate. Vice Mayor Vincent agreed with Commissioner Dodd that reserves should be replaced after depleting them to a degree in recent years.

Commissioner Dodd made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sokolow, to set the millage rate to 3.7379. Motion carried 5-0.

- b. Resolution 2015-36 – A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, ADOPTING THE ATTACHED TENTATIVE TOWN BUDGET FOR THE 2015/2016 FISCAL YEAR; ANNOUNCING THE SECOND AND FINAL PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT THE FINAL TOWN BUDGET FOR THE 2015/2016 FISCAL YEAR; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Connie Hoffmann, Town Manager, and Tony Bryan, Finance Director)**

At this time Mayor Sasser opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

Commissioner Dodd made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brown, to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

- c. Resolution 2015-37 – A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAUDERDALE-BY-THE-SEA, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING THE FINAL FIRE ASSESSMENT RATE ON PROPERTY THAT IS SPECIALLY BENEFITED BY FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2015 AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2016; CONFIRMING THE FINAL ASSESSMENT ROLLS AND LEVYING SUCH SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS (Tony Bryan, Finance Director)**

At this time Mayor Sasser opened public comment, which he closed upon receiving no input.

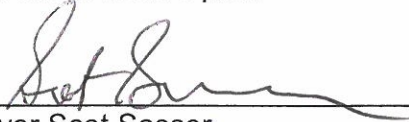
Commissioner Dodd commended the Volunteer Fire Department on their excellent work, which allowed the Commission to establish the proposed rate. It was noted that the Town has the second-lowest fire assessment in the County.

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Commissioner Dodd made a motion, and seconded, Commissioner Sokolow to approve. Motion carried 5-0.

4. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Commission at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

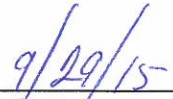


Mayor Scot Sasser

ATTEST:



Town Clerk Tedra Smith



Date